GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SPACE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2108
ANSWERED ON:14.03.2007
GRAMSAT SCHEME
Deshmukh Shri Subhash Sureshchandra

Will the Minister of SPACE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the amount spent on GRAMSAT scheme especially in backward and rural areas during the last 3 years and the current year till date;

(b) the details of the telecast programmes transmitted under this scheme;

(c) whether the Government proposes to involve tribal people for promoting tribal culture through this scheme;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER`S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN)

(a) GRAMSAT/TDCC (Training and Development Communication Channel) Pilot projects were initiated in States of Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Karnataka, Rajasthan, West Bengal, Orissa and Andaman & Nicobar Islands. The overall expenditure under TDCC/GRAMSAT in the last 3 years and the current year is as follows:

Year	Expenditure
2003-2004	Rs. 205 lakhs
2004-2005	Rs. 473 lakhs
2005-2006	Rs. 1000 lakhs
2006-2007(GRAMSAT +VRC)	Rs. 430 lakhs
Total	Rs. 2108 lakhs

(b) These schemes are used to provide state based connectivity for the rural specific needs. Interactive Training Programmes (ITPs) in the fields of education, Panchayati Raj, engineering, health, water, women and child welfare, medical, transport, industry, forestry and fisheries are broadcast regularly.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The State Govts. of Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Karnataka, Orissa and Andaman & Nicobar Islands are regular users of the GRAMSAT network for training. The present average utilization is about 25 − 30 days a month with 100 to 110 interactive training programmes using 6 uplinks simultaneously. The tribal/Adivasi population from Jhabua, Dhar, Badwani in Madhya Pradesh; KBK region in Orissa and Jhalawar and Baran districts in Rajasthan participates in these programmes, specially suited for tribal development and training.

(e) Does not arise.